

# Climate Change and Comprehensive Planning

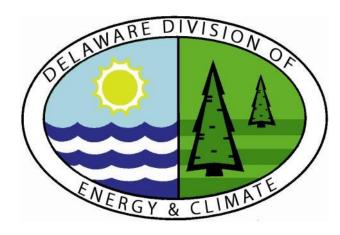
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# 2017 Comprehensive Plan Update & Climate Vulnerability Assessment







### Milford's Challenges

- The City's Historic Central Business District is centered on the Mispillion River and impacted by the 100-year floodplain.
- Residential areas adjacent to the central business district include;
  - older housing stock
  - aging demographic
  - ▶ low-income populations
  - non-native English speaking populations.
- Downtown Revitalization.



## Climate Vulnerability Assessment

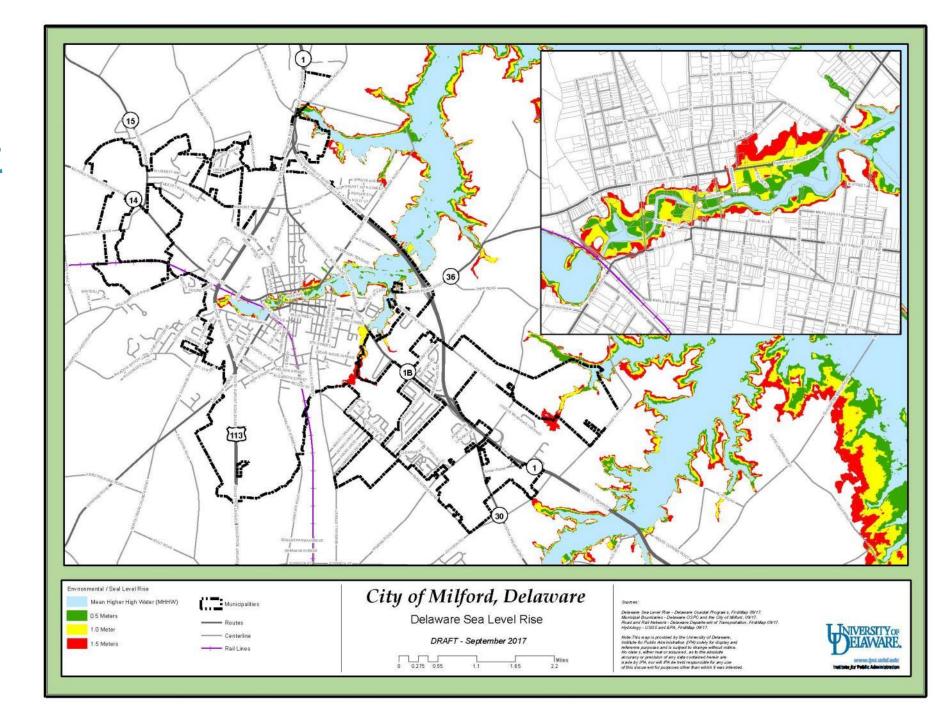
- ► Sea-Level Rise
- ► Heavy Precipitation
- ► Increased Temperatures



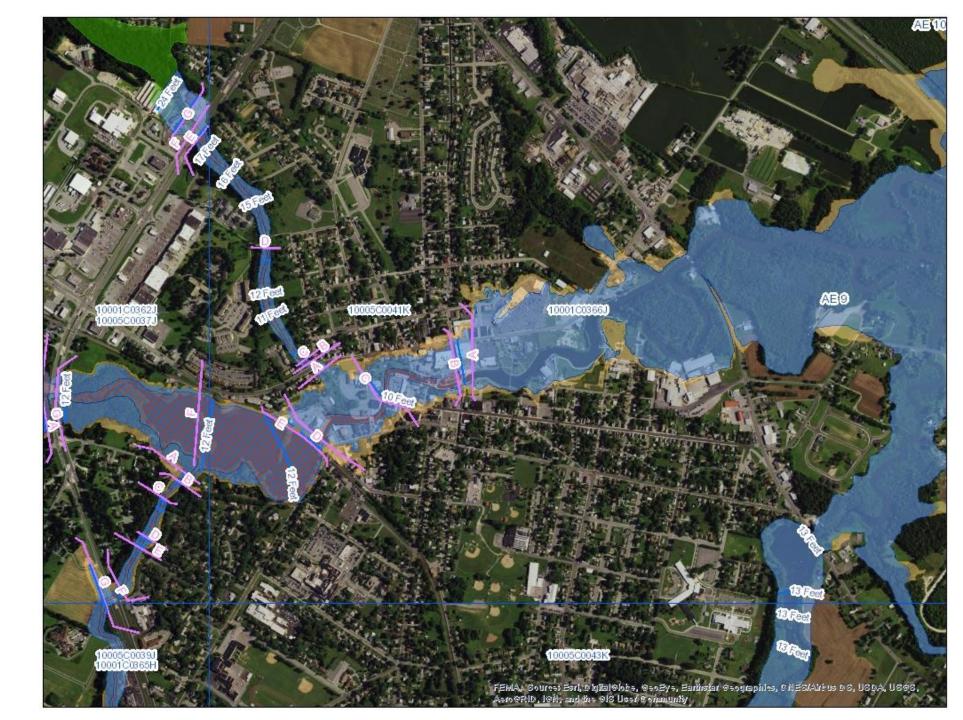
## Sea-Level Rise and Heavy Precipitation

- GIS Analysis of community assets and inundation maps.
- Community Assets include roads, land, historic districts and structures, municipal buildings, evacuation routes etc.
- Sea-Level Rise
  - ▶ 2012 SLR 0.5, 1.0 & 1.5 meter scenarios
- Heavy Precipitation
  - ► FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM)
  - ▶ DNREC's Flood Risk Adaptation Map (FRAM) 1% chance of annual storm event after three (3) feet of sea level rise or "Future Floodplain Map."

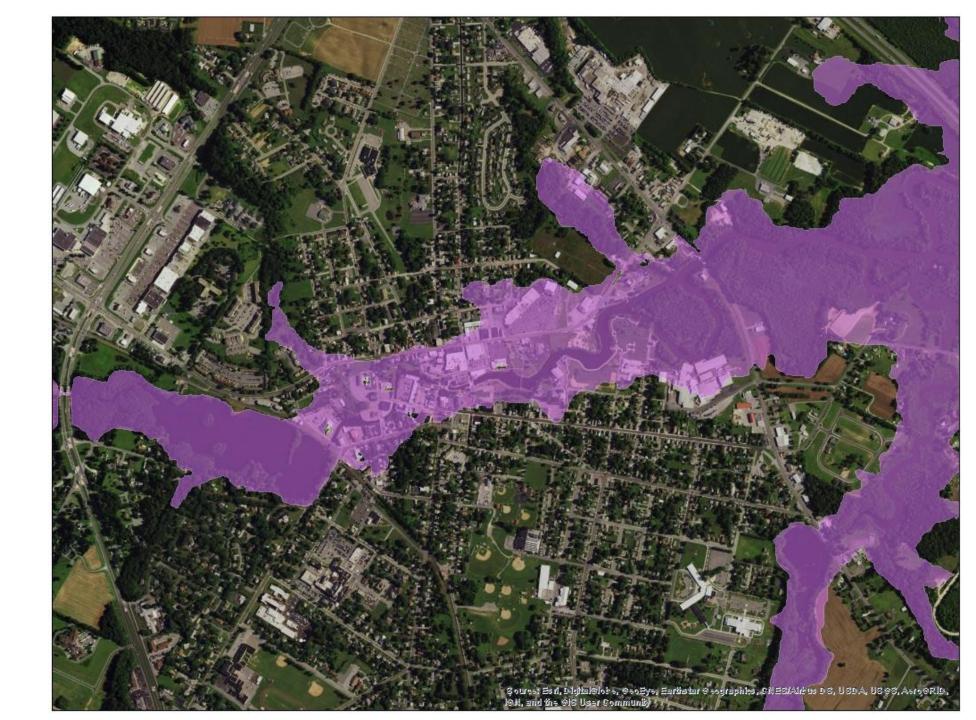
## Sea-Level Rise Exhibit



# FEMA FIRM Exhibit



## FRAM Exhibit



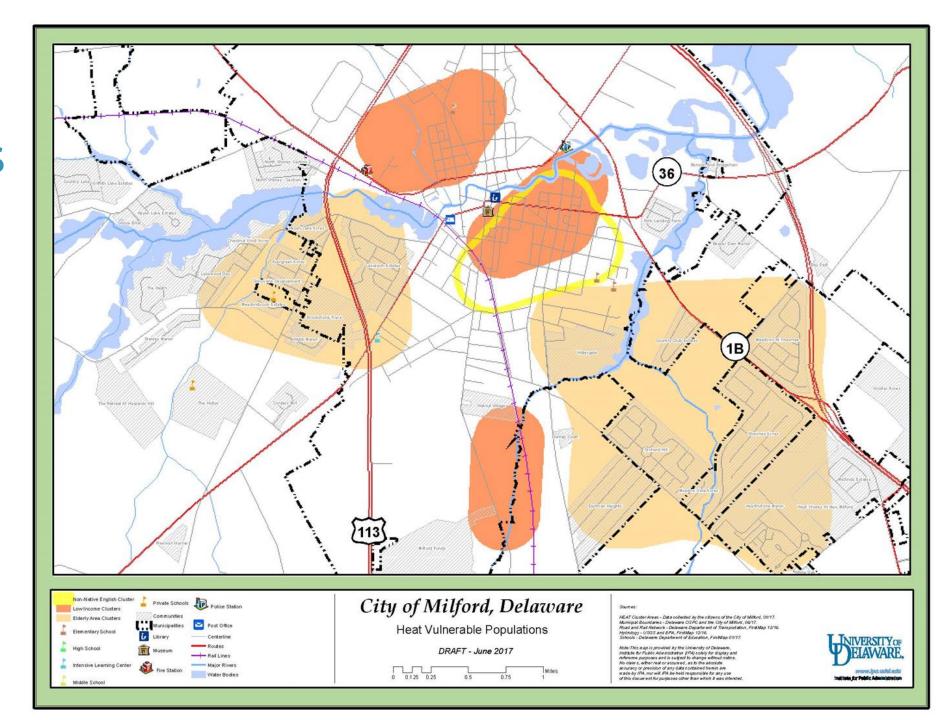
## **Community Assets**

Milford Community Assets/Resources	FIRM		Delaware SLR			
	AE+A	AE+A+0.2	0.5m	1.0m	1.5m	FRAM
Roads (miles)	3.52	5.07	.65	1.37	2.70	6.20
Residential Land (% of total)	60.2	70.4	4.9	8.8	17.5	52.1
Commercial Land (% of total)	99.7	107.5	13.4	25.7	36.8	73.0
Total Land Area (acres)	422.1	478.3	48.2	102.8	166.5	402.3
Historic District (% of total)	13.7%	20.6%	3.7%	7.8%	10.6%	28.4%
Municipal Services (fire, police, school, library, cemeteries, municipal buildings, etc.)	None	Police Station, Post Office	None	None	None	Police Station, Post Office, Library
Downtown Development District (% of total)	29.1%	35.0%	9.9%	18.2%	24.7%	41.9%
Brownfield/Superfund Sites	None	None	None	None	None	None
Underground Storage Tanks (no.)	18	23	5	11	15	22
Septic Systems (no.)	2	3	1	1	1	1

#### Increased Temperatures

- ► Locate populations vulnerable to increased temperatures
  - ► Elderly
  - ► Low Socio-Economic Status
  - ► Isolated Persons
  - ► Immigrants and Non-Native English Speakers
- Census Data (for larger areas)
- Community Mapping Exercise

# Increased Temperatures Exhibit



# Climate Impacts and Comprehensive Planning

- Community Character
- Housing
- ► Community & Economic Development
- Government Services & Infrastructure
- Transportation
- Land Use and Annexation
- Natural Resources
- ► Open Space & Recreation

# Sea-Level Rise and Heavy Precipitation Plan Recommendations

- ► Amend the Floodplain Ordinance and adopt a freeboard requirement for building construction.
- ► Encourage low-impact development and resilient stormwater management practices.
- ➤ Collaborate with DelDOT to conduct a climate change vulnerability analysis to identify at-risk transportation assets and strategies for mitigation.
- Consider refining City's buffering regulations, parking and loading standards, and impervious coverage standards.

## Increased Temperatures Plan Recommendations

- ▶ Update the City's building code to a more recent version.
- Support energy efficiency and renewable energy upgrades.
- Protection and enhancement of the urban tree canopy.
- Consider additional electricity demand from increased usage during periods of sustained high temperature when planning electric infrastructure.
- Establish cooling centers near vulnerable populations.

#### Lessons Learned

- Engage Early and Often
- Emphasize Resiliency
- ► Maps work better than tabular data

# Climate-Conscious Comprehensive Planning in Delaware

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http://www.ipa.udel.edu/publications/cccpd-2017.pdf